

Remarks

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present U.S. patent application as amended herein. Claims 18-20 have been withdrawn. No claims have been added, cancelled, or amended. Thus, claims 1-17 and 21-31 remain pending in the application.

Restrictions

The Office action restricted the claims to the following groups: (I) claims 1-17 and 21-31; and (II) claims 18-20. The applicant elects group I including claims 1-17 and 21-31. Also, claim 18-20 are withdrawn.

Conclusion

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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